

NH Government Finance Officers Association
Executive Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 18, 2020
9:00 AM – NHMA, Concord, NH (VIA ZOOM)

<u>Members Present:</u>	Geoff Ruggles; Tom Boland; Naomi Bolton; Tammy St. Gelais; Katie Graff; Mark Decoteau; Justin Campo; Vicki Lee; Barbara Reid; Jill McNeil; and Carrie Kleb. Naomi Bolton kept the minutes.
<u>Members Unable to Attend:</u>	none
<u>Others Present:</u>	Tina Waterman, Concord
<u>Call to Order:</u>	Geoff Ruggles called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM
<u>Secretary's Report:</u>	Tom Boland moved, Mark Decoteau seconded to approve the March 3, 2020 minutes as written. Unanimous vote in favor.
<u>Treasurer's Report:</u>	Mark Decoteau went over the Treasurer's report. Vicki Lee moved, Katie Graff seconded to approve the treasurer's report as presented. Unanimous vote in favor.

New Business:

- *GAAFR20 Group Purchase and Subsidy:* Tammy St. Gelais explained that depending upon the number of enrollees we could get a larger discount, but we would need the order form before we know the true cost. Jill McNeil stated that we need at least 30 for this year and wondered if we should add 30 more for next year making the total order 60 books. They would be available to be ordered at the end of the month. There was discussion about GFOA subsidizing some of the cost and the members pay the rest. Mark Decoteau moved, Naomi Bolton seconded that the book can be purchased for \$20 and GFOA will subsidize the balance for regular members only. Unanimous vote in favor.
- *Posting of Vendor Sponsored Events on List serve:* TD Bank requested to post their webinar on economy on the list serve. This may prompt other vendors to do the same.

Committee Reports:

- *Legislative Committee* – Barbara Reid shared that the State has ceased operations in mid-March. The House and Senate now have started Zoom meetings. The House held a session @ UNH to see if there would be enough votes to suspend its rules and allow consideration of about 3 dozen bills. They failed to garner 2/3rds votes needed to extend House session, which means that the House cannot pass any House or Senate bills this year. The Senate held a session on Tuesday, June 16th that passed unanimously on party lines with amendments, now it goes back to the House who will reconvene on June 30th but only for an up or down vote.

PFAS – HB1264 regarding the drinking water contaminant, there is no funding. There was an amendment for \$50M for a loan program with the State which authorizes the state to issue bonds against the credit of the State to provide low interest loans for water and wastewater systems PFAS remediation. Currently the State has lawsuits with 3M and Dupont. If the State wins the lawsuits, the money would go toward the loan program and the Towns wouldn't have to repay.

DOT – HB 1182 regarding the distribution of funds at a percentage greater than the statutory 12 percent to municipalities for highway block grant aid, if there are federal funds received as part of the COVID-19 relief. The highway block grant aid distribution is based on actual revenue received from the gas tax and motor vehicle registrations. The estimate for the 2020 revenue is expected to be lower.

Meals and Rooms Distribution – this money is not directly tied to rooms and meals, it is really a general fund appropriation. The governor has stated that he has no intention of cutting this but that doesn't mean the legislature can't, but by not extending the House the session is over at the end of June.

Municipal Aid - \$20M each year in the budget which is still planning to be paid, but everything is on the table. This year is looking somewhat optimistic but the State has no idea of what the revenue picture will look like next year. The real challenge will be the next year starting July 2021.

NH Retirement – there is going to be a significant increase in the employer rates next year. They voted to lower the assumed rate of return, which is used to predict revenue. Effective July 2021 there could be a double digit rate increase.

- *Training Committee* – Tammy St. Gelais explained that the annual conference has been rescheduled to October 29th & 30th. All the speakers and sponsors are still in. Mark Decoteau shared that the Tax Collector/Town Clerk conferences in September have all been cancelled. Barbara Reid shared that the NHMA conference is planning to be a virtual conference in November as well as the Budget and Finance Workshop in September. The cancellation deadline for the Red Jacket is 90 days. The committee suggested working with NHMA virtually if the decision is to cancel the conference. If cancelled there would be \$38,000 in refunds. The Board felt that it was the right thing to do is to cancel and move toward the 2021 conference. Geoff Ruggles moved, Mark Decoteau seconded to postpone the annual conference until May 2021. Unanimous vote in favor. Jill McNeil and Tammy St. Gelais will notify everyone via the list serve. They will also talk with the hotel to see if those that have paid for their hotel will be able to carry it over to 2021 and let everyone know the reply through the list serve.
- *Certificate Program* – Jill McNeil has been working on rearranging to have virtual classes at other locations. A couple don't want to move virtually due to the nature of the class. The program is still moving forward and it was mentioned to give the students an extra year for completing, 3 yrs. Versus 2 yrs. The National Guard may be an option for in house training.
- *Membership Committee* – Nothing new to report
- *Purchasing Committee* – Nothing new to report
- *Website Advisory Committee* – Nothing new to report
- *Audit Committee* – Nothing new to report
- *NH Public Finance Consortium* – Nothing new to report
- *NE States GFOA* – Nothing new to report
- *NH PDIP Advisory Committee* – Nothing new to report

Executive Session: None

Naomi Bolton moved; Mark Decoteau seconded to adjourn meeting at 9:58 PM, unanimous vote in favor.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held August 4, 2020, place and time TDB.

Respectfully submitted,

Naomi L. Bolton

Naomi L. Bolton
Town Administrator
Weare, NH